(b) what is the procedure laid down to dispose of such seized gold and heroin ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) During the last two months *viz.*, December, 1987 and January 1988, the quantities of gold and heroin seized in various parts of the country under the Customs Act, 1962 are mentioned below :—

(in Kgs.)

	Quantity of gold seized	Quantity of Heroin seized
December 1987	186.505	198
January 1988	190.887	434

As regards the number of raids, the figures of raids are not maintained commodity-wise. The total number of raids/searches for contraband during December 1987 was 694 and in January 1988, the number was 391 (provisional).

(b) As per the prescribed modes of disposal, confiscated gold is deposited in the Government of India Mint and heroin is destroyed.

Payment of D.A. to Central Government Employees

*10. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH :

SHRI F. M. KHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that one more instalment of D.A. for payment to the Central Government employees has become due with effect from the 1st January, 1988;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) by when orders for payment of the same to the Central Government employees are likely to be issued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The twelve monthly average consumer price index on 31-12-1987 is 719.25 which works out to an increase of 18.29 per cent over the index average of 608 to which the revised pay scales are pegged. The twelve monthly average consumer price index on 30-6-1987 was 687.50 which constituted an increase of 13.07 per cent over the index average of 608. On this basis last instalment was sanctioned w.e.f. 1-7-1987. Therefore, an instalment of D.A. has become due for payment with effect from 1-1-1988. The rates of D.A. admissible with effect from this date will be 18 per cent, 13 per cent and 11 per cent for basic pay up Rs. 3500/-, over Rs. 3,500/- but upto Rs. 6,000/- and over Rs. 6,000/- p.m. respectively.

(c) The matter is under consideration and a decision will be taken soon.

Dealing with A & E Services Limited

*11. SHRI JASWANT SINGH :

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether STC, MMTC or any other agency of the Ministry of Commerce had any negotiations/transactions/dealings with a concern by the name of A&E Services Limited of U.K. or other registration;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether any payments have been made or received and if so, what are the financial details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.